

SPIDER-MAN

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP



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the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

IF THE
LIZARD
DOESN'T GET
YOU, INSECT--

THEN
STEGRON
WILL!!!



IT'S A HOLIDAY HOLOCAUST! WE CALL IT...
THE WAR OF THE REPTILE-MEN!
--AND SPIDEY IS CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE!



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motion picture event of all time.**



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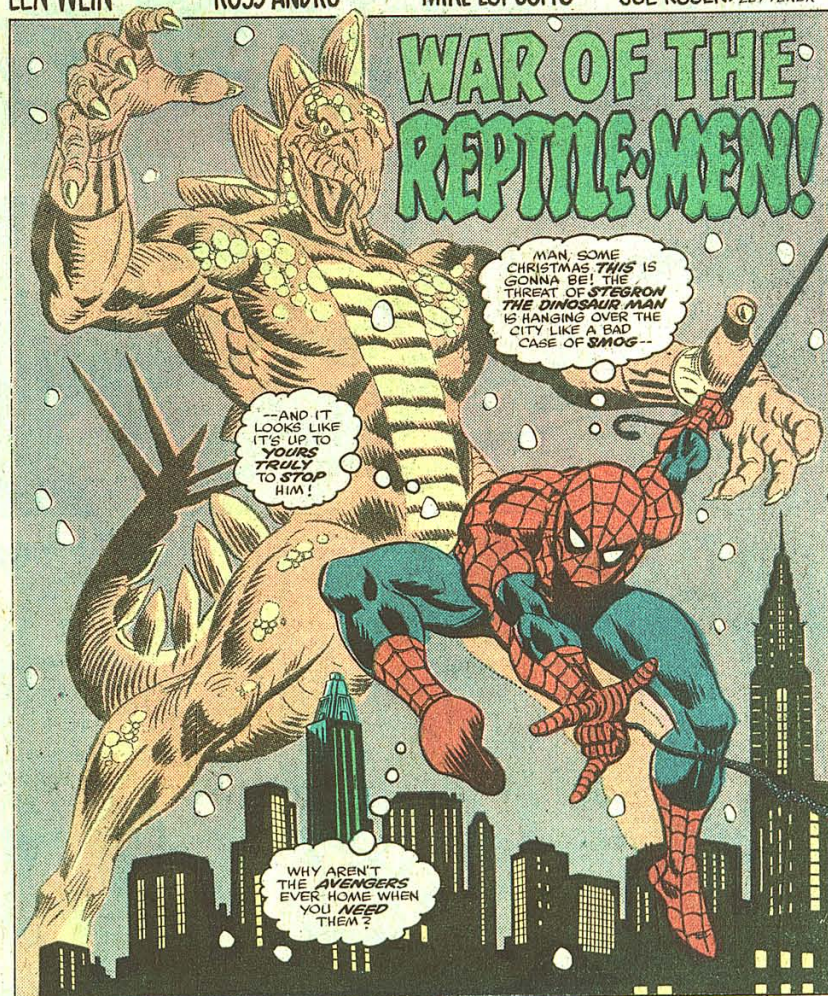
Starts December 17th at a theatre near you.

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While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter soon found that he had GAINED the insect's powers...and had, in effect, become a human spider...

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN™

LEN WEIN WRITER/EDITOR ROSS ANDRU ILLUSTRATOR MIKE ESPOSITO INKER GLYNIS WEIN: COLORIST
JOE ROSEN: LETTERER



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AH WELL, GUESS SOME OF US ARE JUST LUCKIER THAN OTHERS--

--WHICH IS WHY I'M PAYING THIS LITTLE CALL ON DR. CURTIS CONNORS!



VINCENT STEGRON USED TO BE THE DOCS LAB ASSISTANT, SO IF ANYONE CAN HELP ME NAB THAT DINOSAUR MAN, IT'S...HUH?



MY SPIDER-SENSE--TINGLING TO BEAT THE BAND!

THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG IN CONNORS' APARTMENT-- BUT WHAT?



THE LIZARD?!!

CRIPES! THAT'S THE ONE THING I NEVER CONSIDERED!

CURSE YOU WALL-CRAWLER-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



FOOL! YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE OF DEFEATING ME!

SWELL-- THAT'S ALL I NEEDED!

LIZZY IS THE ONE VILLAIN I CAN NEVER USE MY FULL POWER AGAINST--



--BECAUSE WHATEVER HAPPENS TO HIM ALSO HAPPENS TO CURT CONNORS!

GOT TO USE MY WEBBING TO BREAK OUR FALL BEFORE...



OH NO! WHO'S THE BRIGHT-EYED IDIOT WHO PUT THIS STUPID AWNING UNDER US?

KRRRIIP!!



MINDLESS MAMMAL, YOUR PUNY POWERS ARE NO MATCH FOR THOSE OF THE MASTER OF ALL REPTILES!!

MAYBE NOT SMILEY--



--BUT THEY DON'T HAVE TO BE SO LONG AS I CAN STILL THROW YOU OFF BALANCE--

--LIKE THIS!!



YOU'VE GAINED A MOMENTARY RESPIRE, INSECT! IF YOU'RE WISE, YOU'LL USE IT TO FLEE!

MY QUARREL IS WITH STEGRON, NOT WITH YOU--



--BUT I'LL NOT HESITATE TO DESTROY YOU IF YOU GET IN MY WAY!

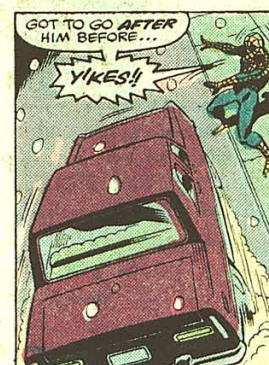
YEAH-- SO I NOTICE!



BUT FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR FAMILY, I STILL HAVE TO...

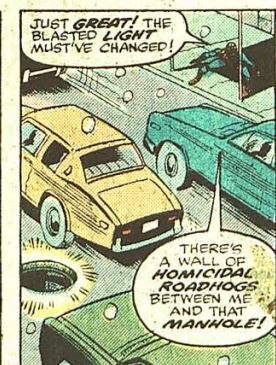
OBOY.

ONCE LIZZ SEES HIMSELF IN THAT MAZE OF SEWERS, I'LL NEVER FIND HIM!



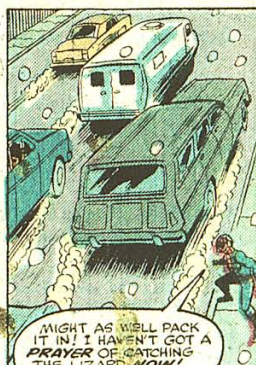
GOT TO GO AFTER HIM BEFORE...

YIKES!



JUST GREAT! THE BLASTED LIGHT MUST'VE CHANGED!

THERE'S A WALL OF HOMICIDAL ROADBLOCKS BETWEEN ME AND THAT MANHOLE!



MIGHT AS WELL PACK IT IN! I HAVEN'T GOT A PRAYER OF CATCHING THE LIZARD NOW!

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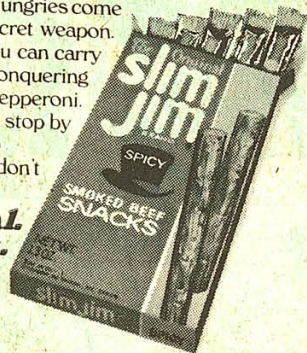
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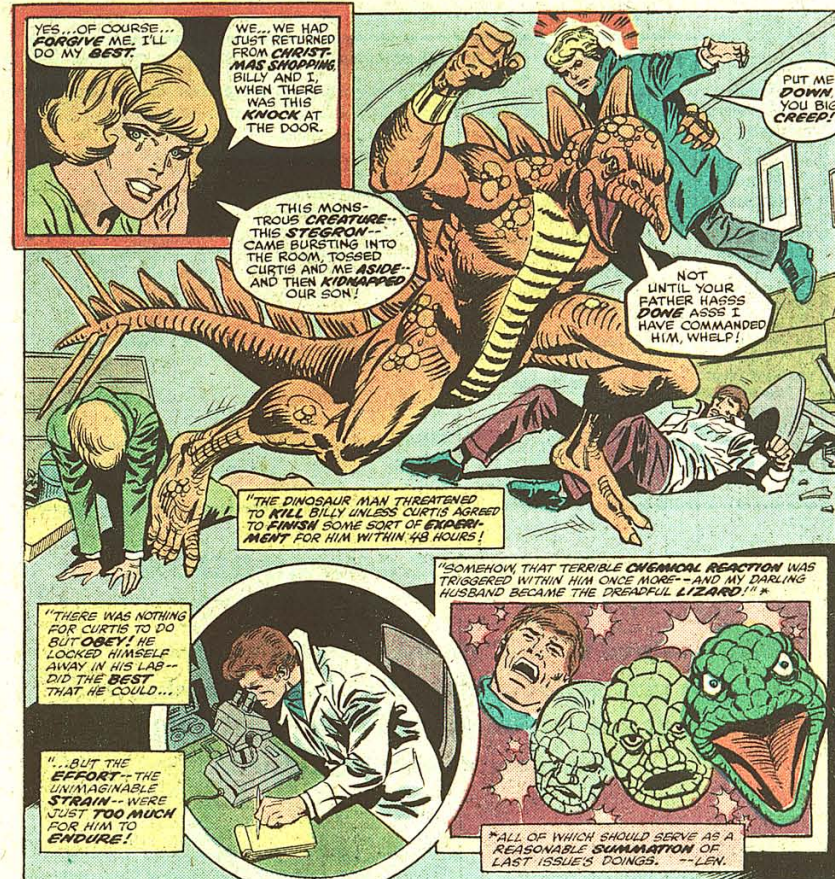
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-- AS THEIR PATHS CROSS IN THE
PARKING LOT OF EMPIRE STATE
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JONAH?

JONAH, HOLD ON
A MINUTE! I'M
RIGHT **BEHIND**
YOU!

APPARENTLY, HE
CAN'T *HEAR* ME
OVER THE *HOWL*
OF THE WIND--

--OR ELSE HE'S
SO *PREOCCUPIED*.
HE'S NOT EVEN
LISTENING--

--AND KNOWING
J. JONAH
JAMESON, I'D
OPT FOR THE
LATTER!

AH-- SO *THERE* YOU ARE,
DR. MADISON, I'VE-- AH--
BEEN *WAITING*.

I'M SURE IT
HASN'T BEEN
LONG.

FOR *THIS*, MARLA MY DEAR-- I'VE BEEN WAITING MOST OF MY *LIFE*!

WELL, I'M
GLAD YOU
DIDN'T HOLD
YOUR *BREATH!*

AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT,
I'LL THANK YOU NOT TO
SMOKE THOSE AWFUL
CIGARS IN MY PRESENCE!

IT'S A TRULY
FILTHY
HABIT!

MARLA--
DON'T!
THAT'S A
FIVE-
DOLLAR
HAVANA!

YOU
MEAN-

LISTEN, LADY-- WHEN WE GOT *INTO* THIS TOGETHER, I DIDN'T EXPECT YOU TO START PLAYING *NURSEMAID!*

YOU'RE JUST
LUCKY I COULD
SALVAGE
WHAT YOU
LEFT OF
THIS CIGAR!

NO, MR. JAMESON, WHEN WE GOT INTO THIS, YOU EXPECTED ME TO DEVISE A MEANS FOR YOU TO **DEFEAT** A CERTAIN **WALL-CRAWLER--**

--AND THAT'S
PRECISELY
WHAT I'VE
DONE!

TAKE A LOOK
AT WHAT YOUR
HARD-HOARDED
MONEY WAS
SPENT ON,
JONAH!

**BEHOLD
THE
BRAND-NEW
SPIDER-
SLAYER!!**

MARLA,
MY DEAR, I
TAKE BACK
EVERYTHING
I WAS
THINKING
ABOUT YOU!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

AND SINCE WE'RE SWITCHING SCENES ANYWAY, WE MAY AS WELL TAKE A QUICK SIDE-TRIP TO A CERTAIN FAR ROCKAWAY APARTMENT COMPLEX WE HAVEN'T VISITED IN FAR TOO MANY MONTHS...

FUNNY RUNNING INTO YOU
LIKE THIS-- ESPECIALLY
NOW THAT I'M WORKING
FOR THE *DAILY BUGLE*!
YOU'RE JOE ROBERTSON'S
SON, AREN'T YOU?

UH-HUH-- BUT I
DON'T **WORK** FOR
THE BUGLE, MS.
GRANT. I JUST
DROP BY TO SEE
MY **DAD** EVERY
NOW AND THEN.
HOPE I'LL SEE
YOU!

BY THE WAY
YOU CAN
CALL ME
RANDY.

TERRIFIC.
MY NAME'S
GLORY.
GLAD TO
KNOW YA.
ACE.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-156114)
SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY, AKA
RE: NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, 1/11/68

On 1/11/68, the New York Office received information from the New York State Department of Corrections that James Earl Ray, AKA, was in the custody of the New York State Department of Corrections. This information was obtained from a letterhead memorandum dated 1/11/68, from the New York State Department of Corrections to the New York Office.

The New York Office is currently conducting an investigation of the activities of James Earl Ray, AKA, in New York City. The New York Office is currently conducting an investigation of the activities of James Earl Ray, AKA, in New York City. The New York Office is currently conducting an investigation of the activities of James Earl Ray, AKA, in New York City.

Very truly yours,
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosure

100-156114

1/11/68

NEW YORK

OSBORN! MERRY CHRISTMAS FLASH!

AND A **NO-NO-NO** TO YOU
RANDY. GLAD YOU AN' GLO
COULD **MAKE IT!**

BRING!

HANG
LOOSE,
FLASH.
I'LL GET
THE
PHONE!

RING!

THANKS,
MARY JANE

HELLO?
WHO?

OH--**PETER!** HEY,
WHERE **ARE** YOU,
TIGER?

SORRY, RED-- BUT SOMETHING
IMPORTANT HAS COME UP.
 AFRAID I CAN'T **BE** THERE.

WISH THE GANG
A MERRY
CHRISTMAS
FOR ME,
OKAY?

YEAH-- I'M
DISAPPOINTED
TOO, M.J. I'LL
SEE YA SOON.

YOU WERE
SUPPOSED TO
BE HERE AN
hour ago.

WELL, IT LOOKS
LIKE THE GHOST
OF CHRISTMAS
PAST ISN'T
COMING,
GROUP-- BUT
PETER TOLD US
TO GO AHEAD
WITHOUT
HIM.

YEAH, PAL. I'M YOUR ROOM-MATE, FOR PETE'S SAKE-- AND EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS.

WELL, FLASH-- I'M AFRAID YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO FIND YOURSELF A **NEW** ROOM-MATE SOON.

YOU SEE, I'VE ASKED THE
LOVELY **LIZ ALLEN** HERE

AND WOULD
YOU BELIEVE
I'VE **ACCEPTED?**

WELL
FAR
OUT.

1-

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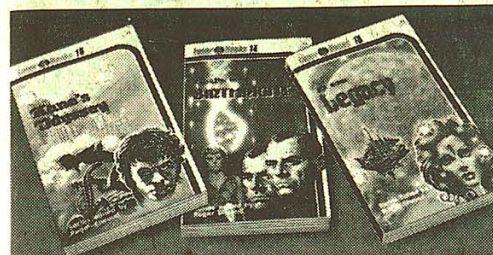
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by Jeff Clinton

"My father wouldn't listen to us. He would have us killed! Or even worse, wiped out! What kind of world sets family against family, father against son? Rufus could not answer. But he knew he had to find the man who condemned him to the ceaseless pain of The Learner—the man who destroyed the identity of Jeffrey Nine. He knew he had to find his worst enemy, his father. His search takes him across a land where friend betrays friend and not even love can stop the quest for the truth."

BIRTHRIGHT

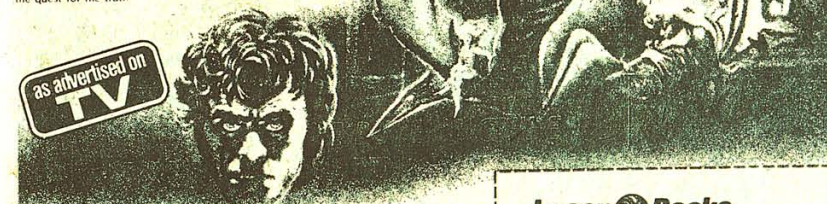
by Kathleen Sky

"Lousy, stinkin' Vat! Kill the Vat!" Just days before, he was a successful cadet at the Academy well on his way to being a first class astrogator. Now Andros was running for his life, accused of being an android, the very thing he hated most on earth. Neither a murderous mob nor love for the passionate Miranda will stop him from getting the answer. But will he be able to accept the truth?

LEGACY

by J.F. Bone

"A tonocaine addict is not human", Williams kept muttering over and over as he weighed the life of his best friend against all life on the planet. The cop in him knew what had to be done. But still he hesitated before injecting the lethal dose. Now he knew for sure that the spread of the deadly drug was part of a diabolical plot—and he was the only one who could stop it.



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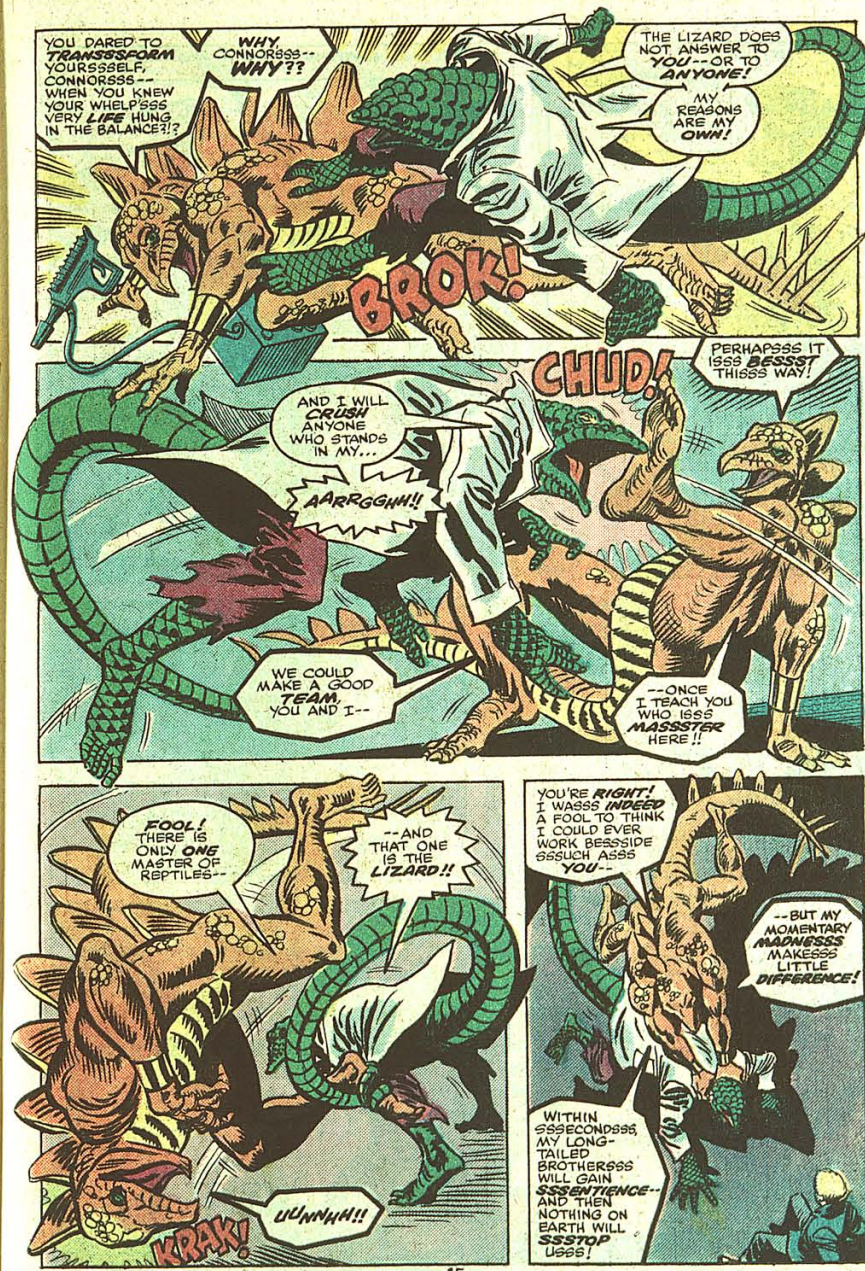
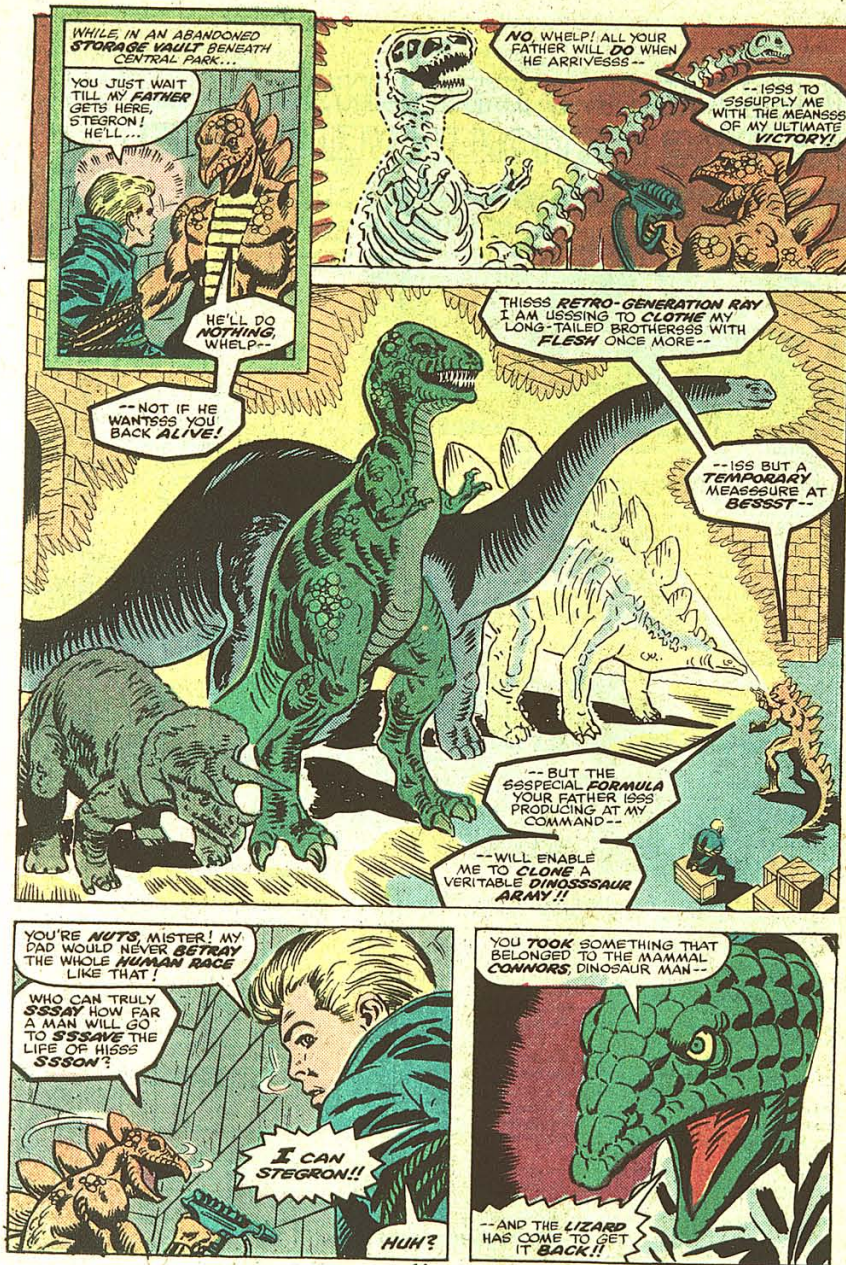
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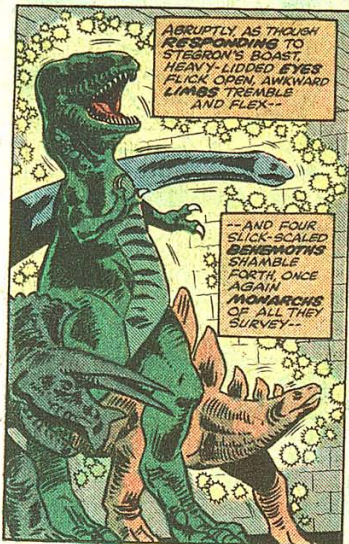
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ABRUPTLY, AS THOUGH RESPONDING TO STEGRON'S SCAT, HEAVY-LIDDED EYES FLICK OPEN, AWKWARD LIMBS TREMBLE AND FLEX--

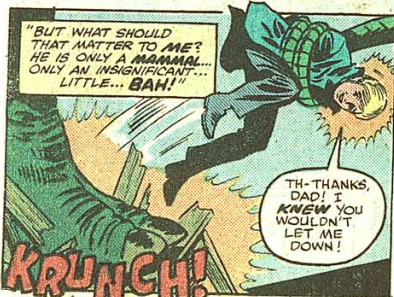
--AND FOUR SLICK-SCALED BEHEMOTHS SHAMBLE FORTH, ONCE AGAIN MONARCHS OF ALL THEY SURVEY--



--AND TOTALLY CONTEMPTUOUS OF WHATEVER MIGHT LIE IN THEIR PATH--

HELP ME, DAD-- PLEASE!

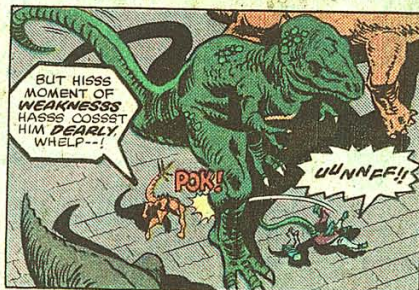
EH? CONNORS' CHILD-- THE DINOSAURS ARE CHARGING STRAIGHT TOWARD HIM!



"BUT WHAT SHOULD THAT MATTER TO ME? HE IS ONLY A MAMMA-- ONLY AN INSIGNIFICANT... LITTLE... BAH!"

TH-- THANKS, DAD! I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T LET ME DOWN!

KRUNCH!



BUT HISSSS MOMENT OF WEAKNESSSS HASSE COSSEST HIM PEARLY WHELP--!

POK!

WUNNEE!!



EVEN NOW, MY LONG-TAILED BROTHERSSSS ARE SSSSTALKING OUT INTO THE SSSSTREET--

--AND WHEN I HAVE JOINED THEM, WE SSSSHALL...

WURRRK!!

ALL YOU SHALL DO, STEGRON-- IS DIE!!



AND MOMENTS LATER, HIGH ABOVE ONE OF THE SEVERAL ROADWAYS THAT DISSECT CENTRAL PARK--

LEAPIN' LIZARDS!

WELL, NOW I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE DINOSAUR SKELETONS STEGRON STOLE FROM THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY!"

THAT GODZILLA GANG WILL TURN THIS PARK INTO A CHARNEL HOUSE--

--UNLESS YOURS TRULY LENDS A HAND--

AND I MEAN THAT LITERALLY!

KRAMM!

*LAST ISSUE RIGHT? --LEN.



--IN A HURRY!

THWAK!



"A LITTLE WELL-PLACED WEBBING WILL BLIND THEM TEMPORARILY--

SPAK!

--WHICH SHOULD PUT THEM INTO A PANIC--



"--AND THE REST CAN TAKE CARE OF ITSELF."

YOU SHOULD BE SAFE NOW, MA'AM!

THOSE OVERGROWN IGUANAS WILL BE FALLING ALL OVER THEMSELVES FOR A WHILE!



WEEOWEEOWEE

AH-- ENTER NEW YORK'S FINEST--

--AND JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME!



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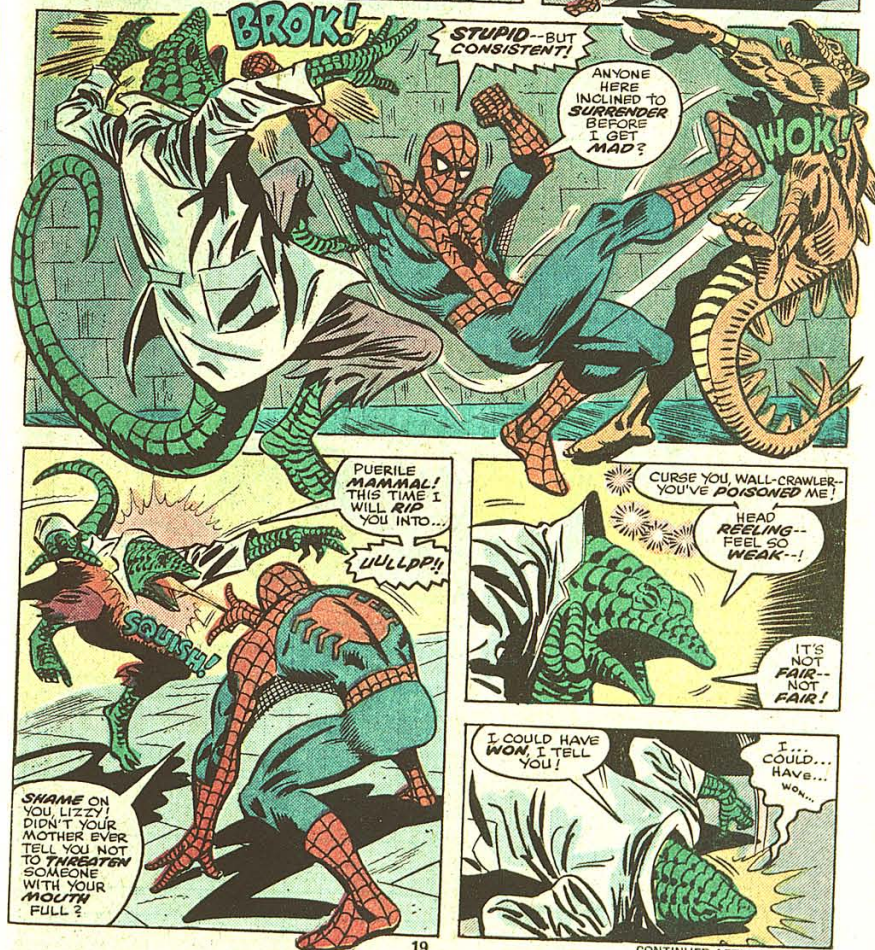
BUT HOW--??

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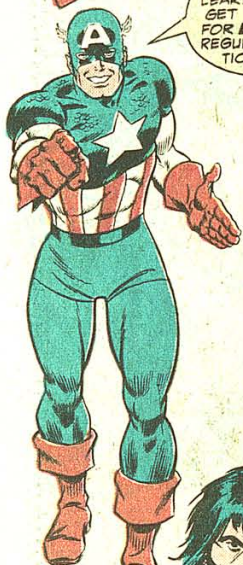
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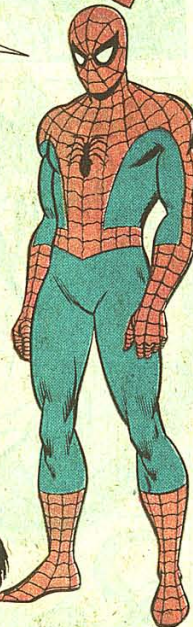
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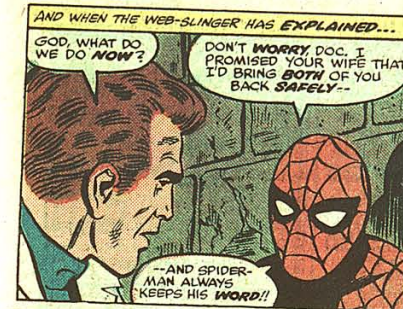
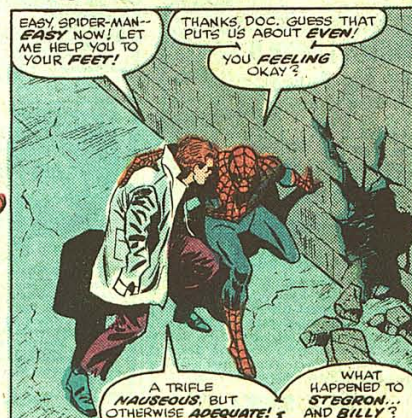
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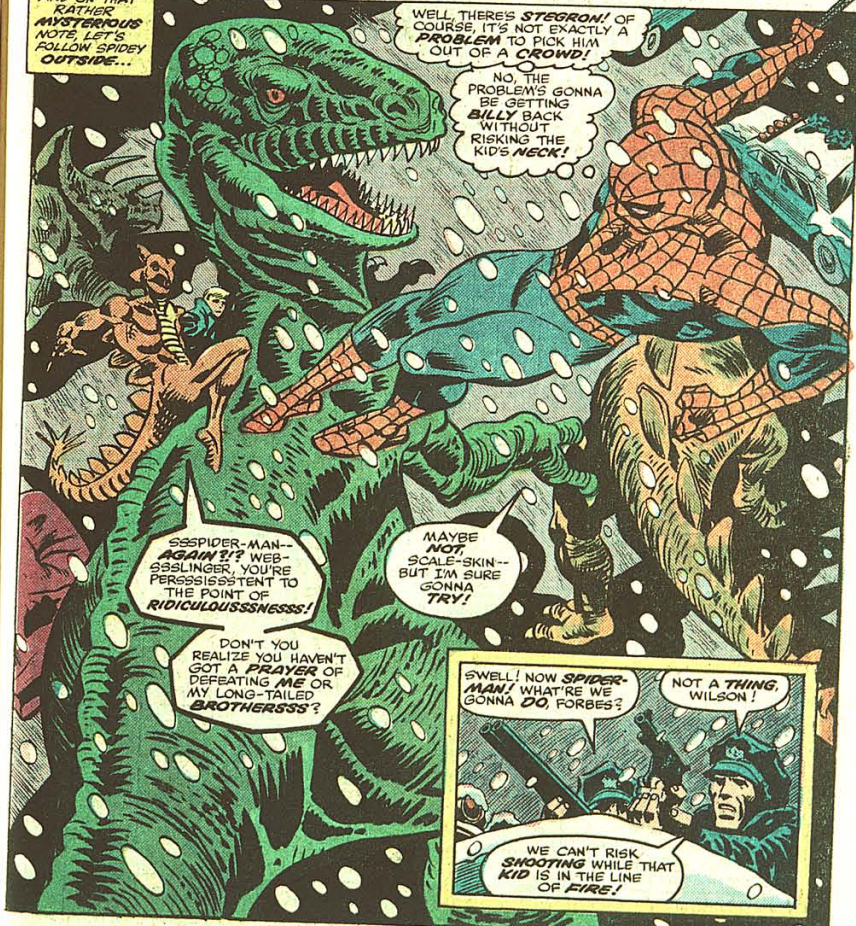
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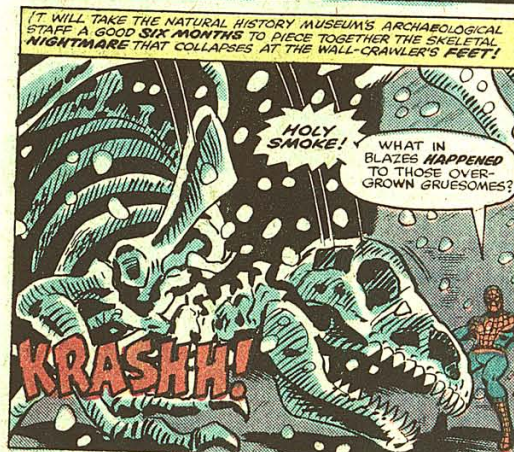
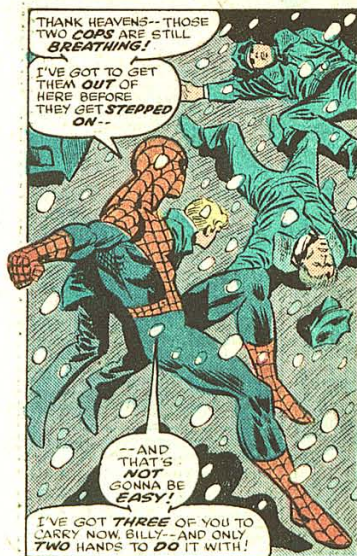
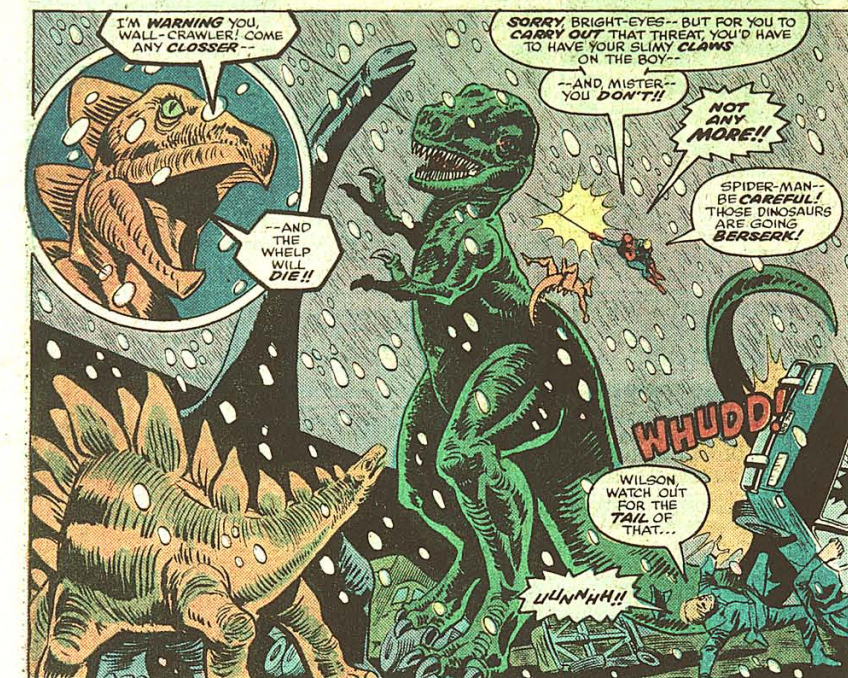
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WITH WINSOME WAGS, WARPED WRONGDOERS AND A WANDERING WARLOCK!

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Y'know, the biggest problem with writing these Soapboxes is the calendar! What I mean is, here I am writing these wondrous words early in September, but you won't be reading them till sometime in December! You see, it takes us a full three months to get our masterful mags written, drawn, lettered, colored, printed, distributed and into your greedy, grasping, grateful hands! So, here I sit, sagaciously scratching my pointy little head as I try to think of something to say that will be interesting and newsworthy to you three months hence! But you can now relax. Truth and justice have suddenly triumphed and virtue hath been rewarded! I've just thought of an item that'll warm the very cockles of the heart of Marveldom Assembled! Didja know that we've licensed SPIDER-MAN to Daring Denny Allen, President of the famous Register & Tribune Syndicate, as a newspaper comic strip? Even as your startled eyes peruse this awesome announcement, ol' Spidey is preparing for newspapers all around the world, daily and Sunday! Drawn by Jazzy Johnny Romita, and written by yours truly (who's glad to be back in harness again), our first incredible installment features the ol' webslinger battling Dr. Doom against the background of a United Nations terrorism threat! If Spidey isn't in your favorite newspaper yet, now's the time to phone your local Feature Editor, or drop him a line condemning him for allowing his readers to dwell in a cultural wasteland! And, before turning you loose, we might as well mention two additional new strips which I've foisted upon the hapless newspaper-reading public. One is SAYS WHO, a series of contemporary gags, using photos of world-famous celebrities (kinda like our old MONSTER MADNESS mag, remember?). The other is a satirical soap-opera drawn by Fearless Frank Springer and distributed by Titantic Tom Dorsay's ever-loving Los Angeles Times Syndicate, called THE VIRTUE OF VERA VALIANT. When I tell you that readers are already beginning to refer to it as VERA VALIANT, VERA VALIANT, you'll get the whole hysterical idea! So that's it! SPIDER-MAN! SAYS WHO! THE VIRTUE OF VERA VALIANT! All now appearing in some of the greatest newspapers throughout the world! See all the extra work we do, just so we'll have news items for you each month? No—don't bother thanking us. Just remember—wherever you go, whatever you do, whenever you can—keep thinkin' Marvel! And, if that gets a little heavy, we can always fall back upon "Damnnt quod non intelligent!"

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! What's black and white and green all over? Well, it might be a penguin with terminal grass stains, but the answer we're holding out for is: THE RAMPAGING HULK! Why? Because that's the title of the brand new dollar-size black-and-white magazine featuring the world's favorite greenskinned goliath! Yep, just like CONAN and DOC SAVAGE, the incredible one is going to be coming at you in the kind of no holds barred action that only a novel-length, large format black-and-white mag can provide. And it's all going to happen on a bi-monthly basis, as writer DOUG MOENCH, artists WALT SIMONSON and ALFREDO ALCALA, and editor JOHN WARNER work to bring you some of the most off-beat epics in our emerald-hued hero's career. Look for THE RAMPAGING HULK... on your newstand now!

ITEM! Contrary to what some residents of suburban New Jersey may think, that wasn't an earthquake that rocked the area a few weeks ago, merely a super surprise stage event in celebration of Genial GENE COLAN's fabulous fiftieth birthday. Thanks to the planning—to say nothing of the cunning—of Gene's charming wife Adrienne, the whole affair was a complete secret to the Genial one right up to the moment he walked into a neighbor's house to be confronted by a veritable horde of well-wishers, including such Bullpen luminaries as Jumbo JOHN VERPOORTEN, MARV and MICHELE WOLFMAN, Mirthful MARIE SEVERIN, and Fabulous FLO STEINBERG. Considering what gossips most of us in the comics field are (if an artist changes brushes in the morning, the whole industry knows it by the afternoon), Adrienne's surprise tactics must rank right up there with D-Day. And we think the effort couldn't have been done on the behalf of a more deserving guy. Besides being one of the best pencilers in the business—Gene's HOWARD THE DUCK and DRACULA are the talk of fans and professionals alike—the softspoken Mr. Colan is about as nice a person as you could ever hope to run into. All of our best to one of our best, Gene!

ITEM! As long as we're dispensing felicitations, let's extend them to Cheerful CHRIS CLAREMONT and Bashful BONNIE WILFORD, and to Impish IRENE VARTANOFF and Sparkling SCOTT EDELMAN on their recent marriages. We may no longer be doing romance comics, but no one can say there's not still plenty of the real thing floating around the bullpen!

ITEM! How about RED SONJA? Not only has she graduated from the pages of MARVEL FEATURE into her own full-fledged title (the second issue of which ought to be winging its way to your comics rack any day now), but the first lady of sword and sorcery now has a song written about her. Working from inspiration provided by writer/editor ROY THOMAS

and Sonja artist FRANK THORNE, MIKE and SAL CAPUTO have fashioned "The Ballad of Red Sonja," which was given a special premiere performance recently at Lily Langtry's, a popular New Jersey nightspot. There was press and TV coverage and a lot of loud applause from local Sonja fans. Plans are now underway to have the song recorded; as soon as there's further word, we'll keep you posted. Gee, wonder if this marks the beginning of a trend? Consider the possibilities: "The Black Panther Boogie," "Minuet for the Mad Thinker," "The Howard Hustle"... Sort of scares you, doesn't it? ITEM! December is a big month for followers of MASTER OF KUNG FU! Issue 50 sees the cataclysmic climax of the six part epic adventure Devil-May-Care DOUG MOENCH and Peerless PAUL GULACY have been meticulously building to for over half a year now. Admirers of comics as a form of graphic art have long been complimenting us on this series, and, with pardonable pride, we have to admit they're right. This month's account of Shang Chi's clash with Dr. Fu Manchu fully confirms it. See for yourself. We're sure you won't be sorry.



ITEM! Let's close out this month's session with a glance into the crystal ball for a few hints about what's in store for the future. For those who've been wondering what's happened to WARLOCK and DEATHLOCK since the demise of their own titles, watch up and coming issues of MARVEL TEAM-UP, MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE, and MARVEL SPOTLIGHT. Fans of Tolkienesque fantasy should keep their eyes peeled and their thirty cents at the ready for the appearance of "Tyndal's Quest," another item scheduled for SPOTLIGHT. And be sure to read Stan's Soapbox next issue. If all goes well, our fearless leader will be announcing details on one of the most exciting projects we've ever had a chance to bring your way. How's that for a cliff-hanger ending to the column?

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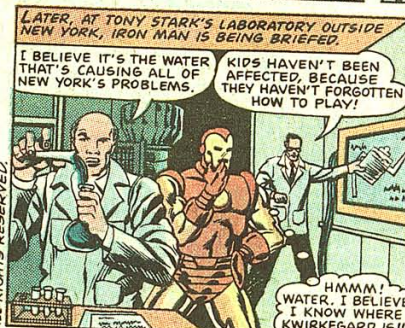
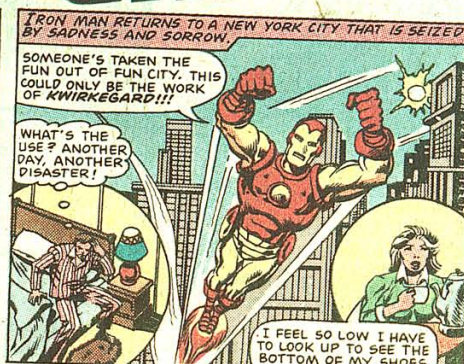
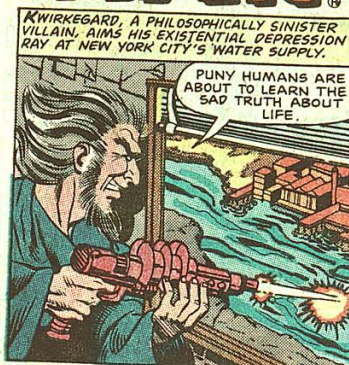
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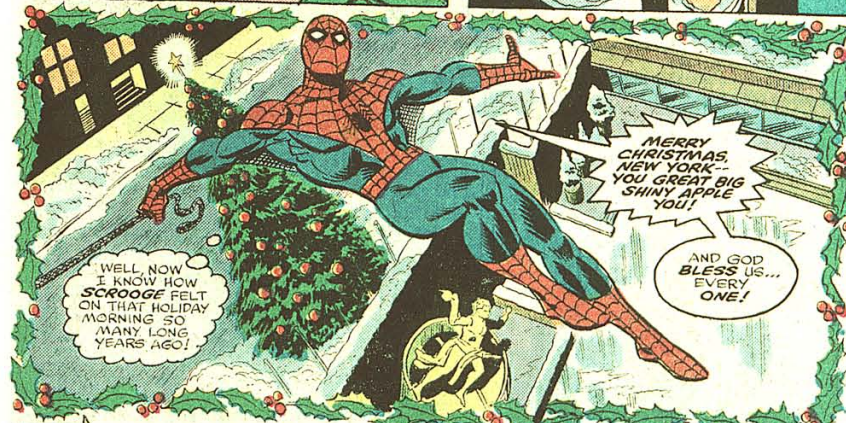
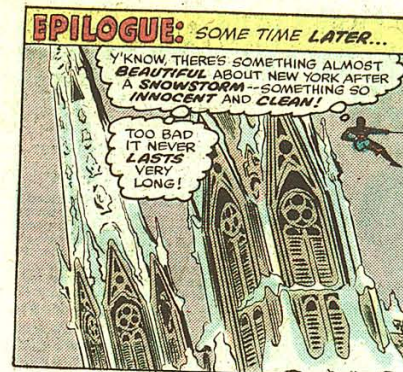
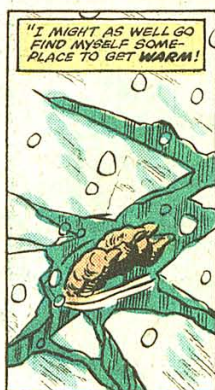
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